

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 071129

12

ORIGIN AF-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66615

DRAFTED BY AF/E:BCROGERS:JR

APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

----- 009138

R 090002Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071129

FOL REPEAT ASMARA 211 SENT ACTION ADDIS ABABA INFO

SECSTATE APR 01

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0211

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CASC, ET

SUBJECT: MISSING TENNECO HELICOPTER

REF: A. ASMARA 208

B. ASMARA 210

1. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH BURTCHAE LL HE STATED THAT THE CAPTORS OF THE MISSING PARTY HAVE SENT TWO LETTERS OF DEMANDS. IN ONE LETTER WRITTEN IN AMHARIC, TIGRIGNA, ARABIC AND ENGLISH, THEY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS THE ELF. THEIR ONLY DEMAND AT THIS TIME IS THAT THERE BE NO RETALIATION AGAINST THEM OR THE VILLAGERS IN THE AREA. THESE LETTERS ARE DELIVERED TO VILLAGE OFFICIALS AND RELAYED TO ASMARA BY POLICE RADIO. A TEAM HEADED BY KEGN. ARAIA SEIUM, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF MASSAWA, AND COMPOSED OF VILLAGE ELDERS, IS PRESENTLY NEGOTIATING WITH THE ELF ON BEHALF OF TENNECO. BURTCHAE LL STATES THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND HAS SAID THAT THEY WILL NOT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 071129

RETALIATE. COMMENT: RETALIATION BY ARMY OR POLICE AFTER

HOSTAGES FREED WILL PROBABLY COMPLICATE MATTERS IF  
AMERICAN CITIZENS ARE CAPTURED AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

2. BURTCHAELL STATES THAT AT THIS TIME TENNECO ETHIOPIA  
PLANS TO CONTINUE ITS EXPLORATION FOR COPPER IN ERITREA.  
COMMENT: THE CAPTIVE PARTY IS LIKELY RECEIVING FIRM  
INSTRUCTIONS ON WHAT IS EXPECTED OF TENNECO IN ERITREA.

3. BURTCHAELL HAS REQUESTED THAT NAMES OF CAPTIVE  
PARTY GIVEN IN REF (B) NOT RPT NOT BE RELEASED TO THE PRESS.  
HE ALSO DISCOUNTS BBC REPORT OF \$1 MILLION RANSOM REQUESTED.  
PERRY

UNQTE  
RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARAMILITARY FORCES, HOSTAGES, POLICE FORCES, HELICOPTERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE071129  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** BCROGERS:JR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740080-0591  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740455/aaaabxtd.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. ASMARA 208  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <19 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MISSING TENNECO HELICOPTER  
**TAGS:** PINS, CASC, ET, TENNECO  
**To:** OTTAWA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005